1	UNITED STA	ATES DISTRICT CO	DURT	
2	FOR THE NORTHER	RN DISTRICT OF O	CALIFORNIA	
3	)			
4	Plaintiff(s),	No. C	MEJ	
5	v. )	ORDER SET	TING	
6	)	CASE MAN	AGEMENT	
7	Defendant(s).	CONFEREN		
8	)	[ALL CASE	S]	
9				
10	IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, pursu	ant to Fed. R. Civ. F	P. 16 and Civil L. R.	16-10, a Case
11	Management Conference will be held in this case	e before the Honorab	le Maria-Elena James	on Thursday,
12	at 10:00 A.M. in Cou	rtroom B, 15th Floo	r, 450 Golden Gate A	Avenue, San
13	Francisco, California, 94102.			
14	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, within	n 120 days of filing t	he complaint, and in a	accordance with
15	Fed. R. Civ. P. 4, Plaintiff(s) shall complete service	ce of the complaint of	n at least one Defend	ant and file either a
16	waiver of service or a certification of service of p	rocess. Failure to file	e the waiver of service	e or a certification
17	of service may result in issuance by the Court of	an Order to Show Ca	ause why the complain	nt should not be
18	dismissed without prejudice pursuant to Fed. R.	Civ. P. 4.		
19	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Couns	sel shall meet and co	nfer prior to the Case	Management
20	Conference and file, no later than seven days bef	fore the Case Manag	ement Conference, a	Joint Case
21	Management Conference Statement in compliance	e with Civil L. R. 16	-9 addressing the info	ormation contained
22	in the Joint Case Management Statement and [pr	roposed] Case Mana	gement Order form, e	enclosed herewith.
23	In addition, the parties must be prepared to know	ledgeably discuss w	ith the Court any of the	he other subjects
24	listed in Fed. R. Civ. P. 16 or in Civil L. R. 16-10	0.		
25	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that motion	ns for summary judg	ment shall be accomp	anied by a joint
26	statement of undisputed facts in compliance with	Civil L. R. 56-2(b).		
27	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that seven	days prior to the cas	se management confe	rence, each party
28	shall file the consent/declination form, enclosed he	erewith, consenting t	o Judge James' jurisd	iction or requesting
	reassignment to a district court judge. In the ever	nt that Defendant(s) f	ile a Motion to Dismi	iss, pursuant to

1 Fed. R. Civ. P. 12, Defendant(s) shall file the consent/request for reassignment form at the time the motion is 2 filed and Plaintiff(s) shall file the consent/request for reassignment form seven days thereafter. 3 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that in all "E-Filing" cases, when filing papers that require the 4 Court to take any action (e.g. motions, meet and confer letters, administrative requests), the parties 5 shall, in addition to filing papers electronically, lodge with chambers a printed copy of the papers by 6 the close of the next court day following the day the papers are filed electronically. These printed 7 copies shall be marked "Chambers Copy" and shall be submitted to the Clerk's Office in an 8 envelope clearly marked "Magistrate Judge Maria-Elena James", case number and "E-Filing 9 Chambers Copy." Parties shall not file a paper copy of any document with the Clerk's Office that 10 has already been filed electronically. 11 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that each attorney of record in all "E-Filing" cases is obligated to 12 become an ECF User as defined in General Order No. 45 and be assigned a user ID and password for 13 access to the system upon designation of the action as being subject to ECF. Registration shall be on a form 14 prescribed by the Clerk. Attorneys of record who fail to register timely shall be subject to such sanctions as 15 may be imposed by the Court. 16 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff(s) shall serve copies of this Order, the Joint Case 17 Management Statement and [proposed] Case Management Order form, the consent/request for reassignment 18 form and the attached Discovery and Dispute Procedures on all parties to this action, and on any parties subsequently joined, in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 and 5. Following service of process on 19 20 Defendant(s), Plaintiff(s) shall file a certificate of service with the Clerk of this Court. 21 Failure to comply with this Order or the Civil Local Rules of this Court may result in sanctions, 22 including the dismissal of the complaint or the entry of a default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(f), Civil L. R. 1-4. 23 24 Date: December 13, 2002 25 Maria-Elena James United States Magistrate Judge 26 27

28

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1	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2	FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
3	) Case No. MEJ Plaintiff(s),
5 6	vs. JOINT CASE MANAGEMENT  vs. STATEMENT AND [PROPOSED]  CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER.
7	Defendant(s).
9 10 11 12	The parties to the above-entitled action submit this Joint Case Management Statement and Proposed Case Management Order and request the Court to adopt it as the Case Management Order in this case, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16 and Civil L.R.16-10(b).
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	i. Description of the case: (The parties may attach additional pages to this statement.)  1. A brief description of the events underlying the action:
22 23 24	2. The principal factual issues which the parties dispute:
25 26	
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28	

# Case 3:05-cv-02953-JMHP Dbc.ommeretnt 4-4 Filled 07//20/2006 Page 4 of 18

1	
2	3. The principal legal issues which the parties dispute:
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11	4. Other issues [e.g. service of process, personal jurisdiction, subject matter jurisdiction or venue]
12	which remain unresolved for the reason stated below and the parties' proposed resolution:
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19	5. The parties who have not been served and the reasons for said lack of service:
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25	6. The additional parties whom the below-specified parties intend to join and the intended
26	time frame for such joinder:
27	J. J
28	

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8	B.	Consent to Magistrate Judge for Trial:
9	1.	The parties consent to assignment of this case to a United States Magistrate Judge for Trial:
10		Yes No
11		The consent/request for reassignment form is attached to the back of this sample joint case
12		management statement and order. The consent/request for reassignment form was received by
13		Defendant with service of process of the complaint. <b>Each party shall file the signed form</b>
14		consenting to Magistrate Judge James' jurisdiction or requesting reassignment to a district
15		court judge no later than the filing deadline for the joint case management statement
16		assigned by the initial case management schedule.
17		
18	C.	Alternative Dispute Resolution:
19		The parties have discussed and request the following court ADR process: Nonbinding Arbitration,
20		Early Neutral Evaluation, Mediation, or Early Settlement [If Nonbinding Arbitration, Early Neutral
21		Evaluation or Mediation, state the expected or scheduled date for the ADR session]:
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		[PROPOSED] CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER
27		[Counsel shall fill in the stipulated dates for the matters below]
28		Pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 16, the Court conducted a case management conference on

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	1	
1		and ORDERS as follows:
2		
3	A.	ADR Program:
4	1.	The parties are hereby referred to [ADR selection above].
5	2.	The parties shall file their ADR certification by the date assigned by the initial case
6		management schedule received from the Clerk of the Court, pursuant to Civil L.R. 16-8.
7		
8	B.	Jury or Court Trial:
9	1.	The parties shall designate in <b>both their pleadings and joint case management</b>
10	staten	<b>nent</b> whether the trial requested is a jury trial or court trial [designate one below]:
11		Plaintiff requests a jury trial
12		Defendant requests a jury trial
13		Plaintiff requests a court trial
14		Defendant requests a court trial
15		
16	C.	Pretrial Motions:
17	1.	All pretrial motions shall be filed in accordance with Civil L.R. 7. A motion shall be noticed pursuant
18		to Civil L.R. 7-2 without calling the Court. Civil law and motion is heard on Thursday mornings at
19		10:00 a.m.
20		
21	D.	<u>Discovery</u> :
22	1.	The parties shall abide by Judge James' standing order regarding discovery and dispute procedures.
23		
24		
25	E.	<u>Disclosure of Expert Witnesses</u> :
26	1.	Any party wishing to present expert witness testimony with respect to a claim or defense shall serve
27		on all other parties the name, address, qualifications, resume, and a written report which complies with
28		Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2)(B) on or before (210 days before trial).

ı	2.	This disclosure must be made with respect to a person who is either (a) specifically retained or
2		specially employed to provide expert testimony pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence 702 or (b) a
3		regular employee or agent or treating physician who may be called to provide expert opinion
4		testimony.
5	3.	A party or counsel has a continuing duty to supplement the disclosure of expert
6	witnes	sses when required under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(e)(1).
7		
8	F.	Rebuttal Expert Witnesses:
9	1.	If the testimony of the expert is intended solely to contradict or rebut opinion testimony on the same
10		subject matter identified by another party, the party proffering a rebuttal expert shall make the
11		disclosures required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2)(B), no later than(200
12		days before the trial).
13		
14	G.	<u>Limitation on Testimony by Expert Witnesses</u> :
15	1.	Unless the parties enter into a written stipulation otherwise, upon timely objection, an expert witness
16		shall be precluded from testifying about any actions or opinions not disclosed prior to the expert's
17		deposition. This is to ensure that all factual material upon which expert opinion may be based and all
18		tests and reports are completed prior to the expert deposition.
19	2.	Unless application is made prior to the close of expert discovery, each party is limited to calling only
20		one expert witness in each discipline involved in the case.
21	3.	Any party objecting to the admissibility of the testimony of person disclosed as an expert witness must
22		file a written motion in limine to exclude the testimony no later than the deadline set in this order for
23		filing motions in limine.
24		
25	H.	<u>Close of Discovery</u> :
26	1.	All discovery, including depositions of expert witnesses, must be completed by (185
27		days before trial).
28	2.	Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16(b) and Civil L.R. 26-2, a discovery request or

1		stipulation that calls for responses or depositions after the discovery cut-off date are not enforceable
2		except by order of the Court and upon a showing of good cause.
3	3.	Pursuant to Civil L.R. 26-2, no motions to compel discovery may be filed later than 10 days after the
4		discovery cut-off date.
5		
6	I.	<u>Dispositive Motions</u> :
7	1.	Pursuant to Civil L.R. 7-2, all dispositive motions shall be filed, served and noticed by
8		(155 days prior to trial). The parties shall file a joint statement of undisputed facts
9		pursuant to Civil L.R. 56-2(b) when filing a motion for summary judgment or summary adjudication.
10	2.	The Court shall hear dispositive motions on( 120 prior days to trial, during the
11		Court's Thursday law and motion calendar) at 10:00 a.m. in Courtroom B, 15th Floor of the Federal
12		Building, located at 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, California.
13		
14	J.	Exchange and filing of Trial Papers:
15	1.	By(60 days before trial) lead counsel who will try the case shall meet and confer
16		with respect to the preparation and content of the joint pretrial conference statement and shall
17		exchange (but not file or lodge) the papers described in paragraph 2 below.
8	2.	By ( 45 days before trial) counsel shall file the papers described in Federal Rule
19		of Civil Procedure 26(a)(3) and a joint pretrial conference statement including the following:
20		(A) Substance of the Action: A brief description of the substance of claims and defenses which remain
21		to be decided.
22		(B) Relief Prayed: A detailed statement of all the relief claimed, particularly itemizing all elements of
23		damages claimed as well as witnesses, documents or other evidentiary material to be presented
24		concerning the amount of damages.
25		(C) Undisputed Facts: A plain and concise statement of all relevant facts not reasonably disputable, as
26		well as which facts parties will stipulate for incorporation into the trial record without the necessity of
27		supporting testimony or exhibits.
28		(D) Disputed Factual Issues: A plain and concise statement of all disputed factual issues which remain

1	to be decided.
2	(E) Agreed Statement: A statement assessing whether all or part of the action may be presented upon
3	an agreed statement of facts.
4	(F) Stipulations: A statement of stipulations requested or proposed for pretrial or trial purposes.
5	(G) Witness list: A list of all witnesses to be called for trial. The parties shall submit a page-length
6	detailed summary of the substance of the proposed testimony of each witness, which shall also specify
7	to which disputed fact the testimony relates and an estimate of the time required for direct and cross
8	examination of each prospective witness.
9	(H) Exhibit list: A list of all exhibits to be offered at trial. The exhibit list shall list each proposed exhibit
10	by its number or alphabetical letter, description and sponsoring witness. All documents shall be
11	authenticated prior to trial.
12	(I) Estimated Time of Trial: An estimate of the number of hours needed for the presentation of each
13	party's case.
14	(J) Settlement: A statement summarizing the status of the parties' settlement negotiations.
15	No party shall be permitted to offer any witness or exhibit in its case in chief that is not
16	disclosed in its witness or exhibit list without leave of the Court for good cause shown.
17	3. Motions in limine: Counsel are directed to meet and confer to resolve any evidentiary
18	disputes prior to filing motions in limine. Any motions in limine shall be filed (45
19	
	days prior to trial). Any Opposition to motions <i>in limine</i> shall be filed (38 days prior
20	days prior to trial). Any Opposition to motions <i>in limine</i> shall be filed (38 days prior to trial). These matters will be deemed submitted on the papers without oral argument, unless the
20 21	
	to trial). These matters will be deemed submitted on the papers without oral argument, unless the
21	to trial). These matters will be deemed submitted on the papers without oral argument, unless the Court orders otherwise.
21 22	to trial). These matters will be deemed submitted on the papers without oral argument, unless the Court orders otherwise.  4. Trial Briefs: Counsel shall file trial briefs setting forth the applicable legal standard, pursuant to Ninth
21 22 23	to trial). These matters will be deemed submitted on the papers without oral argument, unless the Court orders otherwise.  4. Trial Briefs: Counsel shall file trial briefs setting forth the applicable legal standard, pursuant to Ninth Circuit authority, all significant disputed issues of law, including foreseeable procedural and evidentiary
<ul><li>21</li><li>22</li><li>23</li><li>24</li></ul>	to trial). These matters will be deemed submitted on the papers without oral argument, unless the Court orders otherwise.  4. Trial Briefs: Counsel shall file trial briefs setting forth the applicable legal standard, pursuant to Ninth Circuit authority, all significant disputed issues of law, including foreseeable procedural and evidentiary issues by (30 days prior to trial).
<ul><li>21</li><li>22</li><li>23</li><li>24</li><li>25</li></ul>	to trial). These matters will be deemed submitted on the papers without oral argument, unless the Court orders otherwise.  4. Trial Briefs: Counsel shall file trial briefs setting forth the applicable legal standard, pursuant to Ninth Circuit authority, all significant disputed issues of law, including foreseeable procedural and evidentiary issues by (30 days prior to trial).  5. Joint Proposed Voir Dire (Jury Trial Only): Counsel should submit a joint set of requested voir dire

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1	6.	Joint Proposed Jury Instructions (Jury Trial Only): Jury instructions § 1.01 through § 2.02 and § 3.01
2		through § 3.15 from the Manual of Model Civil Jury Instructions for the Ninth Circuit (1998 Edition)
3		will be given absent objection. Counsel shall submit a <b>joint</b> set of additional proposed jury
4		instructions by (30 days prior to trial). The instructions shall be ordered in a
5		logical sequence, together with a table of contents. Any instruction on which counsel cannot agree
6		shall be marked as "disputed," and shall be included within the jointly submitted instructions and
7		accompanying table of contents, in the place where the party proposing the instruction believes it
8		should be given. Argument and authority for and against each disputed instruction shall be included as
9		part of the joint submission, on separate sheets directly following the disputed instruction. The Court
10		prefers that all jury instructions conform to the Manual of Model Civil Jury Instructions for the Ninth
11		Circuit.
12		If possible, counsel shall deliver to the Courtroom Deputy a copy of their joint proposed jury
13		instructions on a computer disk in WordPerfect format. The disk label shall include the name of the
14		parties, the case number and be entitled "Proposed Jury Instructions."
15		At the close of Defendant's case in chief, the Court shall hear oral argument on the disputed jury
16		instructions and will then render its rulings.
17	7.	Proposed Verdict Forms, Joint or Separate (Jury Trial Only): Counsel shall submit any <b>joint</b>
18		proposed verdict forms and shall submit their separate verdict forms by (30 days prior
19		to trial).
20		Whenever possible, counsel shall deliver to the Courtroom Deputy a copy of their joint proposed
21		verdict forms on a computer disk in WordPerfect. The disk label shall include the name of the parties,
22		the case number and be entitled "Proposed Verdict Forms."
23	8.	Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law (Court Trial Only): Counsel shall submit <b>joint</b>
24		proposed findings of facts by (30 days prior to trial). Counsel shall submit
25		separately a copy of their disputed findings of fact and conclusions of law by (30
26		days prior to trial).
27		Whenever possible, counsel shall deliver to the Courtroom Deputy a copy of their joint proposed
28		findings of fact on a computer disk in WordPerfect. The disk label shall include the name of the

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1		parties, the case number and be entitled "Joint Proposed Findings of Facts."
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3	K.	Pretrial Conference:
4	1.	On (30 days prior to trial, during the Court's Thursday law and motion calendar
5		is held on Thursdays) the Court shall hold a pretrial conference at 10:00 a.m. in Courtroom B, 15th
6		Floor of the Federal Building, located at 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, California. Lead
7		counsel who will try the case must attend the pretrial conference. The purpose of the pretrial
8		conference is for the Court to rule on any issues raised in the final pretrial conference statement,
9		motions in limine, and to discuss the trial of the case.
10		
11	L.	Final Pretrial Conference:
12	1.	On (4 days prior to trial, during the Court's Thursday law and motion calendar)
13		the Court shall hold a final pretrial conference to address any outstanding trial issues.
14		
15	M.	<u>Trial Date</u> :
15 16	M. 1.	Trial Date:  The trial shall commence [with jury selection taking place] on (Trial
16		The trial shall commence [with jury selection taking place] on (Trial
16 17		The trial shall commence [with jury selection taking place] on (Trial schedule: Monday through Thursday, at 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.). The trial shall last
16 17 18	1.	The trial shall commence [with jury selection taking place] on
16 17 18 19	1.	The trial shall commence [with jury selection taking place] on
16 17 18 19	1.	The trial shall commence [with jury selection taking place] on
16 17 18 19 20	1.	The trial shall commence [with jury selection taking place] on
16 17 18 19 20 21	1.	The trial shall commence [with jury selection taking place] on
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	2.	The trial shall commence [with jury selection taking place] on
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	2.	The trial shall commence [with jury selection taking place] on
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	2.	The trial shall commence [with jury selection taking place] on

The exhibit markers shall each contain the name and number of the case, the number or alphabetical letter of the exhibit, and blank spaces to accommodate the date admitted and the Deputy Clerk's initials.

On the day of trial, counsel shall bring the original premarked exhibits, a copy of the premarked

On the day of trial, counsel shall bring the original premarked exhibits, a copy of the premarked exhibits for opposing counsel and two binders which contain a copy of each side's premarked exhibits for the Court. **The premarked exhibit binders are to be designated with label dividers.** The premarked exhibit binders will be given to the Courtroom Deputy on the morning of the trial.

Jury Selection:

N.

1. The Jury Commissioner will summon 20 to 25 prospective jurors. The Courtroom Deputy will select their names at random and seat them in the courtroom in the order in which their names are called.

Voir dire will be asked of sufficient venire persons that eight (or more for a lengthy trial) will remain after all peremptory challenges and an anticipated number of hardship dismissals and cause challenges have been made.

The Court will then take cause challenges, and discuss hardship claims from the individual jurors, at side bar. The Court will inform the attorneys which hardship claims and cause challenges will be granted, but will not announce those dismissals until the process is completed. Each attorney may then list in writing up to three peremptory challenges. The attorneys will review each other's lists and then submit them to the clerk.

Then, from the list of jurors in numerical order, the Court will strike the persons with meritorious hardships, those excused for cause, and those challenged peremptorily. The Court will then call the first eight people in numerical sequence remaining. These people will be the jury. All jurors remaining at the close of the case will deliberate. There are no alternates.

25 O. Sanctions:

Failure to comply with this Order is cause for sanctions under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16(f).

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3	P.	<u>Transcripts</u> :
4		Counsel who wants to receive a daily transcript shall contact Robert Stuart, Supervisor Court
5		Reporting Services, at (415) 522-2079, at least ten days in advance of the trial date.
6		If any video or tape recording equipment or demonstrative devices will be used, a signed
7		order will need to be obtained at least ten days in advance of the trial date for the items to clear
8		security.
9		
10	Q.	Questions:
11		All questions regarding these instructions should be directed to Brenda Tolbert, Courtroom
12		Deputy Clerk to Judge James, at (415) 522-4708.
13		
14	Date:	Plaintiff's Counsel Signature
15		
16		Plaintiff's Counsel Printed Name
17		
18	Date:	Defendant's Counsel Signature
19		
20		Defendant's Counsel Printed Name
21 22		IT IS SO ORDERED.
23	Date:	
24	Dute.	Maria-Elena James United States Magistrate Judge
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# NOTICE OF TRIAL ASSIGNMENT TO UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE AND ORDER TO FILE CONSENT/REQUEST FOR REASSIGNMENT FORM

This civil case was randomly assigned to United States Magistrate Judge Maria-Elena James for all purposes including trial. In accordance with Title 28, U.S.C. § 636(c), the Magistrate Judges of this District Court are designated to conduct any and all proceedings in a civil case, including a jury or non-jury trial, and to order the entry of final judgment, upon the consent of the parties. An appeal from a judgment entered by Magistrate Judge James may be taken directly to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in the same manner as an appeal from any other judgment of a district court.

You have the right to have your case assigned to a United States District Judge for trial and disposition. Attached is the form which allows you to either consent to, or decline Judge James' jurisdiction and request reassignment to a District Judge.

Each party shall sign and file the consent/declination form, either consenting to Judge James' jurisdiction, or requesting reassignment to a District Judge, no later than the filing deadline for the joint case management statement assigned by the initial case management schedule.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Date: December 13, 2002

Maria-Elena James United States Magistrate Judge STANDING ORDER RE:

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# ASSIGNED OR REFERRED TO MAGISTRATE JUDGE MARIA-ELENA JAMES

In ALL CASES, except those categories of cases listed in Fed.R.Civ.P. 26(a)(1)(E), assigned to Magistrate Judge Maria Elena James for trial or referred to Magistrate Judge Maria-Elena James for purposes of discovery, the parties shall follow the following procedures:

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

DISCOVERY AND DISPUTE PROCEDURES FOR CASES

### <u>Discovery & Disclosure Dispute Procedures</u>:

The Discovery and Disclosure Dispute Procedures inform a pro se party or counsel of the specific procedures required by Judge James before filing a formal discovery motion, pursuant to Civil L. R. 7, or when requesting a telephonic discovery conference, pursuant to Paragraphs 4 or 5 below. Counsel and *pro se* parties are required to follow the Discovery and Disclosure Dispute Procedures herein to resolve all discovery and disclosure disputes.

- Parties (or counsel) shall propound disclosures and discovery in accordance with the Fed. R. 1. Civ. P. 26, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 and 36 and the Civil L. R. 26, 30, 33, 34 and 36. All requests for protective orders must comply with Civil L. R. 79-5. A copy of the Civil Local Rules for the Northern District of California is available at the Office of the Clerk of the Court or are available for public viewing at the Court's internet site - http://www.cand.uscourts.gov. Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 30(a)(2), no more than ten depositions may be taken except by order of the Court. Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 33(a) and Civil L.R. 33-3, no more than 25 interrogatories shall be propounded except pursuant to stipulation or order of the Court.
- The parties shall meet and confer regarding their initial disclosures pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 2. 26(f) and shall make disclosures pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1)(E). The parties shall supplement their initial disclosures when required under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(e)(1).
- Civil law and motion is heard on Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Motions to compel may 3. be noticed pursuant to Civil L. R. 7-2, without calling the Court. However, before the Court will

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consider a motion to compel a **joint** meet and conferral letter must be filed, as described in paragraph 4 below.

- Prior to filing any discovery motion under Civil L. R. 7, or before requesting a telephonic 4. discovery conference, counsel must meet and confer in person for the purpose of resolving all disclosure and/or discovery disputes. Thereafter, counsel shall draft and file a jointly signed letter which (1) attests that prior to filing the motion to compel the parties met and conferred in person on the unresolved discovery dispute; (2) sets forth the unresolved discovery dispute; and (3) states each party's position as supported by statutory and/or case law. Said joint letter shall be signed by both parties, shall be limited to five pages and may not be accompanied by exhibits or affidavits other than exact copies of disputed interrogatories, requests for production of documents and/or responses.
- 5. Generally, the Court will not consider a motion to compel. Instead, the parties shall file a joint meet and confer letter. In the event that counsel was unable to meet and confer with opposing counsel and/or party as directed above, counsel shall request in writing a telephonic discovery conference for the purpose of enforcing the Court's requirement to meet and confer or for the Court to fashion an alternative procedure which satisfies the meet and confer requirement. Counsel's written request shall state (1) three agreed upon prospective times and dates for the telephonic discovery conference to take place, (2) the anticipated length of the telephonic discovery conference, and (3) the phone numbers at which counsel shall be contacted on the day of the telephonic discovery conference. A copy of the written request shall be served on opposing counsel and/or party and verification of said service shall be submitted to the Court. Additionally, counsel shall file a declaration which states the attempt and reasons for the failure to meet and confer. Counsel may attach exhibits to support the declaration, but the declaration and exhibits combined may not exceed seven pages. The Court will not excuse a party from the requisite meet and conferral unless good cause is shown. Counsel's refusal to meet and confer without good cause shown will result in sanctions, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(f) and Civil L. R. 37-3.
- In all "E-Filing" cases, when filing papers that require the Court to take any action 6. (e.g. motions, meet and confer letters, administrative requests), the parties shall, in addition to filing papers electronically, lodge with chambers a printed copy of the papers by the close

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of the next court day following the day the papers are filed electronically. These printed copies shall be marked "Chambers Copy" and shall be submitted to the Clerk's Office in an envelope clearly marked "Magistrate Judge Maria-Elena James", case number and "E-Filing Chambers Copy." Parties shall not file a paper copy of any document with the Clerk's Office that has already been filed electronically.

7. Pursuant to Civil L. R. 37-1(b), in lieu of filing a formal motion, discovery conferences may be conducted telephonically. Parties shall request a telephonic discovery conference in writing which shall include (1) the joint meet and confer letter, as set forth above, (2) three agreed upon prospective times and dates for the telephonic discovery conference to take place, (3) the anticipated length of the telephonic discovery conference, and (4) the telephone numbers at which the parties shall be contacted on the day of the telephonic discovery conference. A copy of the written request shall be served on the opposing party or counsel and verification of said service shall be submitted to the Court.

The parties shall not telephone the Court to arrange a telephonic discovery conference without first sending the Court a written request for the telephonic discovery conference. The Court will not consider a written request for a telephonic discovery conference which is not accompanied by said joint meet and confer letter.

Upon approval, the Court shall contact the parties to inform them of the time and date of the telephonic discovery conference. Unless excused for good cause, the party requesting the telephonic discovery conference shall arrange the conference call on the date and time ordered by the Court.

- 8. In the event that the parties are participating in a deposition or a site inspection and a discovery dispute arises regarding the deposition and/or site inspection, the parties may contact Judge James' Courtroom Deputy, Brenda Tolbert, at 415-522-4708, to inquire whether Judge James' is available to resolve the parties' impending dispute telephonically. In the event that Judge James is not available or the parties are unable to contact Judge James' Courtroom Deputy for any reason, the parties shall follow the procedures set forth in paragraph 6 above.
- 9. In the event that a matter is to be taken off calender, or continued to a further date, a written stipulation signed by the parties shall be submitted to the Court for approval; said stipulation must be

received by the Court at least five business days prior to the scheduled hearing date.

- 10. Other than scheduling matters, pursuant to Civil L. R. 11-4(c), a party shall not contact the Court *ex parte* without prior notice to opposing party. All communications or questions to the Court shall be presented to the Court in writing. Parties must certify to the Court that all parties were faxed or mailed a copy of the written communication. Unless expressly requested by the Court, documents should not be faxed to chambers but should be filed or lodged in accordance with the Local Rules of Court.
- 11. Parties shall not mail or fax to the Court copies of correspondence from a party regarding any dispute pending before the Court.
- 12. Parties have a continuing duty to supplement the initial disclosures when required under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(e)(1).
- 13. Motions for sanctions shall be filed separately, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 37 and Civil L. R. 37-3. Any party seeking an award of attorney's fees or other expenses in connection with a motion shall file a declaration with the opposition or reply memorandum which itemizes with particularity the fees and expenses claimed.

The failure of a party to abide by Judge James' Discovery and Disclosure Dispute Procedures may result in sanctions, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(f).

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: December 13, 2002

MARIA-ELENA JAMES United States Magistrate Judge